

Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 AID-05 /061 W

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R 190911Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9221

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 19755

FOL TEL FROM SONGKHLA DATED 17 DEC SENT ACTION BANGKOK BEING
REPEATED FOR UR INFO

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SONGKHLA 047

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT TH

SUBJ: TEACHER PROTEST IN YALA

1. 5,000 TEACHERS AND STUDENTS DEMONSTRATED IN YALA DECEMBER
16 DEMANDING RTG DO SOMETHING TO ENSURE SAFE RETURN OF
THREE KIDNAPPED TEACHERS AND PUT AN END TO BANDITRY AND TERRORISM
IN THE PROVINCE. DEMONSTRATORS ATTACKED LOCAL AND NATIONAL
GOVERNMENTS AS WELL AS POLICE, CALLING RTG OFFICIALS INCOMPETENT
AND COWARDLY. MEETING STEMMED FROM KIDNAPPING OF TEACHERS
2 DAYS BEFORE BUT ACTUALLY IS AN OUTGROWTH OF INCREASING LEVEL
OF CRIME IN AREA.

COMMENT: KIDNAPPING IS RESULT OF BANDIT ACTION AND NOT
ALLIED WITH ANY SEPARATIST MOVEMENT. WHILE RTG HAS HANDS
FULL WITH MUSLIM SEPARATIST THREAT, LAWLESSNESS IS SOMETIMES
EVEN BIGGER PROBLEM: DURING PAST MONTHS EXTORTIONISTS HAVE
TWICE SHOT M-79'S INTO HOMES OF YALA BUSINESSMEN WHO REFUSED
TO PAY OFF. THIS NEW KIDNAPPING IS IN APPARENT RETALIATION
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TO BANDIT LEADER'S CLAIM THAT POLICE OFFICIALS HAD ARRESTED

HIS WIFE. (REPORTEDLY, THE WIFE MERELY LEFT HIM. HOWEVER,
ANY EXCUSE SEEMS A GOOD ONE IN VENDETTA-LAND). PROBLEM RTG
HAS WITH BOTH SEPARATISTS AND BANDITS IS MAKING LOCAL POPULACE
FEEL SECURE. THIS LARGEST DEMONSTRATION-EVER IN YALA SHOWS
RTG STILL HAS A LONG WAY TO GO. CASTRODALE. UNQUOTE.
KINTNER

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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